code | Promoting every child's right to read

MISSION

CODE collaborates with local partners to create supportive learning environments that foster effective literacy practices and promote engagement between amilies, communities, and schools to advance children's reading and writing abilities.

VALUES

CODE's work is guided by five core values: human rights, accountability, transparency, equity, and sustainability.

VISION

A world where every child can read and write.



Literacy is reading and writing, and so much more. It's a pathway to equity, opportunity and empowerment.

Literacy empowers children to create meaning, and furthers valuable life problemsolving skills. Literacy is not merely a skill to be learned, but a foundational building block in achieving every child's right to a quality education. CODE is uniquely positioned to build these foundations for lifelong success.

Access to primary education has improved globally, especially for girls. However, the low levels of student learning after a full-cycle of primary education in developing regions, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, threaten long-term development. **With nearly 90% of children in these countries unable to read by age 10**, this literacy crisis poses not just an educational challenge but also a global economic and ethical crisis, perpetuating cycles of poverty and inequality.

CODE invests in:

Classroom
teaching
focused on
each student's
success

Joyful classrooms that enable literacy learning Localcontextualized reading and learning materials



Quality Teaching and Learning

In collaboration with our partners, build effective and joyful classroom learning environments that accelerate and support children's literacy.

Contextualized Research

Use research to validate and promote promising practices and inform program design.

Partnership Health

Transform how we engage with our partners in Africa to sustainably and equitably advance our shared aims.

Influencing Change

Participate in policy-level efforts to reduce colonial mindsets and advance the effectiveness of Canadian aid.

Areas of Strategic Focus

(2025-2030)

Funding our Mission

Increase unrestricted and diversified funding to strengthen innovation and impact.

Effective Governance

Align governance structure with CODE's mission and strategic mandate.

People and Culture

Foster an inclusive, enabling and collaborative culture and work environment.

Telling our Story

Distinguish CODE through storytelling, elevation of diverse voices, and proof of social impact.

Transformation and Impact



CODE will work to reduce *learning poverty* (defined as the percentage of Grade 4 students unable to read a simple text with comprehension) in project schools, with a target of year-on-year improvement.



CODE will actively share evidence of cost-effective and high-impact classroom-based literacy interventions that can be adopted, adapted, replicated, and scaled by government and others.



CODE will institute an annual "Partnership Health Check" as partnerships with local civil society organizations lie at the heart of CODE's approach.

